

Minority Business Enterprise Commission

Certification Review Committee (CRC)

Minutes of the Meeting

December 20, 2006

A meeting of the Certification Review Committee (CRC) was held at the Rhode Island Department of Administration, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908 on Wednesday, December 20, 2006. The meeting was called to order at 2:18 p.m. with a quorum being declared present. Members in attendance were: Charles Newton, Stephanie Morris, Louise Anderson, and Mauriana Akinfolarin. Also present was Dorinda Keene, staff to the CRC.

The Minutes of the November 21, 2006 meeting were reviewed. After some discussion, a motion was made and properly seconded to approve the Minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

The Certification Review Committee reviewed the following applications and the recommendations of the MBE Compliance Office:

- a) ABC Services WBE/DBE RI**
- b) Clarity Communications Group, LLC WBE/DBE MA**
- c) MFL Technology Solutions, LLC MBE/DBE DC**
- d) White Enterprises MBE/DBE RI**

After some discussion, a motion was made and properly seconded to approve the certification of these firms for participation in the State of Rhode Island's MBE program as well as the DBE program as administered by those transportation agencies governed by 49 CFR in the industry as detailed in the write up presented by the MBE Compliance Office. Motion carried unanimously.

Old/New Business:

A.D.W., Inc., d/b/a Advanced Distribution & Warehousing – Per the directive of the CRC at a previous meeting, the MBE Compliance Office has notified this applicant that their hearing shall be continued on January 17, 2007. The applicant has also been notified that all outstanding items requested previously by the CRC must be submitted prior to the hearing on January 17, 2007.

Cosco, Inc. – This applicant is currently certified as a WBE/DBE in the State of Rhode Island. At the time of the review for recertification, there was some issues of related party transactions, common ownership, and consolidated financial statements with a non-minority owned firm. After some discussion and review, it was determined that, due to recent federal financial reporting regulations, consolidated financial statements are required whenever one party has guaranteed a loan for another party, regardless of ownership interest in that other party. Based upon this information, a

determination was made that this firm shall be recertified. However, the MBE Compliance Office will be requesting that this applicant provide a copy of their 2006 corporate federal tax return, including all schedules and attachments, by April 1, 2007, as there may be some concerns regarding this firm's ability to continue to meet size standard criteria for certification.

V & L Construction – The MBE Compliance Office advised the CRC that this applicant was seeking to renew their certification. V & L Construction had been certified as an MBE/DBE from 1992 – 2005, when their certification was removed for failure to provide necessary paperwork for recertification. The MBE Compliance Office recommended that their certification be renewed, pending receipt of outstanding tax returns. A motion was made and properly seconded to approve this recertification, pending the additional materials. Motion carried unanimously.

Hearing:

ABM Enterprises - A hearing was conducted before the CRC pursuant to the Administrative Procedures Act and was attended by the owner of the applicant firm, Mr. Kirk Mangum. After questioning by the members of the CRC concerning dependency upon and affiliation with a non-minority firm, a motion was made and properly seconded to approve the certification of this firm as an MBE/DBE, with the condition that this applicant will be required to submit a copy of his

2006 personal federal tax return, including all schedules, as well as a breakdown of all contracts and clients. This information will be due on or before May 1, 2007. Motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 3:08 p.m. The next meeting of the Certification Review Committee shall be on Wednesday, January 17, 2007 at 2:00 p.m.